



Learn More

You can learn more about Habitat for Humanity - Greater Columbus by visiting our website at www.habitatcolumbus.org, by requesting a copy of our newsletter "The Builder," or by calling our staff at **614-HABITAT**. A detailed staff directory is available at www.habitatcolumbus.org/about-habitat/staff.php.



Habitat for Humanity - Greater Columbus achieved a milestone by completing its first multi-home development with the dedication of John G. McCoy Circle in North Linden. Nine families, including 32 children, were able to leave substandard housing and become homeowners in Habitat's new neighborhood.

"Habitat for Humanity has helped me gain a new sense of self renewal, strength, and courage to live the best life I could possibly live. My life has improved tremendously since becoming a recipient of a Habitat home. My children are happy, healthy, and thriving."

*- Anika L. Boudreaux
Habitat Homeowner*



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"When I first started volunteering I had very little experience and worried about whether I could actually be helpful in the home-building process. The Tuesday Crew has been very patient with my frequent questions, and has adopted me as part of the team. I have learned a lot and have definitely made myself useful!"

*- Mary Smith
Tuesday Crew Volunteer*



*Building hope in
our community.*

Working in partnership with God and people to build affordable homes, empower families, and develop communities.

Together, we make a difference...

Who We Are

Habitat for Humanity International is a non-profit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry dedicated to eliminating poverty housing worldwide and making decent shelter a reality for all families.

Why We Are Needed

More than 95 million people in the United States are impacted by substandard housing problems including poor quality and unsafe shelter, overcrowding, homelessness, and rental costs that are too large a percentage of earnings. Examples of substandard housing can be found all around us . . . in our urban, suburban, and rural communities alike.

How We Work

Habitat affiliates work locally in communities around the world to select and support homeowners, organize volunteers, and coordinate house building. Since 1987, the Greater Columbus Affiliate has partnered with a broad coalition of individuals, churches, and businesses to build more than 220 houses in Franklin County.

Who We Serve

Partner families are first-time homebuyers who earn between 30-60% of the median income in Franklin County who are currently living in unsafe, dilapidated, unaffordable housing. Homeowners are selected based on their need for housing, their ability to repay a zero-interest mortgage, and their willingness to partner with Habitat to work on their own home and those of others. We seek to empower families by providing economic opportunity, homeownership education, long-term partnership, hands-on learning, and the dignity of a hand-up, not a hand-out.

How It's Possible

Habitat is able to make housing affordable to low-income families because:

- 1) Houses are sold through a no-profit, no-interest mortgage that is created and held by the Affiliate;
- 2) Homeowners and construction volunteers build under trained supervision and supply thousands of hours of labor to further reduce home-building costs;
- 3) Individuals, corporations, faith groups, and others provide vital financial support through house sponsorships, monetary contributions, and in-kind donations.

Where We Build

Since its founding in 1976, Habitat for Humanity International has built more than 300,000 homes, providing shelter for 1 million people in nearly 100 countries. A new Habitat house is completed somewhere in the world every 21 minutes! The Greater Columbus Affiliate primarily builds new homes on vacant lots in the inner-city neighborhoods of Franklin County that are most



in need of revitalization and redevelopment. In response to the needs of our local community, the Affiliate is also rebuilding and refurbishing existing, foreclosed properties in these areas.

How You Can Get Involved

There are many different ways for individuals and businesses to engage with us in our effort to eliminate substandard housing in Columbus:

- **Contribute:** Private financial contributions are always needed, as they allow us to buy necessary home-building materials.
- **Sponsor:** Businesses, civic associations, and faith groups can give back to the community in which they operate through full or partial house sponsorships.
- **Volunteer:** Individuals who help build houses or who assist Habitat's office or ReStore operations are the volunteers at the heart of our mission, significantly reducing both our construction and operating costs.
- **Shop or Donate:** You can also shop at, or donate reusable home improvement or building materials to, Habitat's ReStore which resells these items at a discount to the public. The profits directly offset 100% of Habitat's administrative costs.